



Franklin County Conservation District Newsletter



VOL. 27 NO 4

WINTER 2013

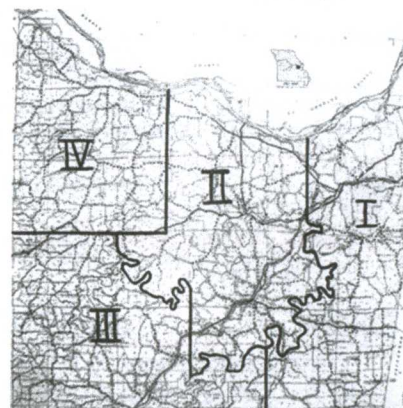
SEEKING NOMINEES FRANKLIN COUNTY SWCD BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Let it be known that the Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District will hold an election for one supervisor in each of two different territories in the county on March 20, 2014. If you or someone you know owns a farm in Territory II or Territory IV, and meets the qualifications listed below may be considered as a candidate in the election. You may submit names for consideration to the Franklin County SWCD office.

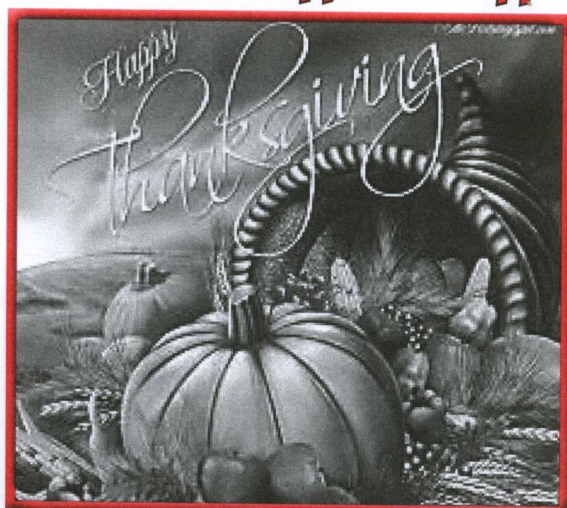
Supervisors of the district administer district policies and programs, district personnel, and cost-share funding made available by the one-tenth-of-one-percent parks, soils and water sales tax.

To be a candidate for the Soil & Water Conservation District election, a person shall be:

1. A land representative, and
2. A resident, tax-paying citizen within the SWCD for a minimum of two years preceding the election date, and
3. A cooperator of the district, defined as, "a person who is actively engaged in farming and practices conservation activities related to agriculture", and
4. Reside in or own a farm in the same territory where the nominating committee has responsibility.



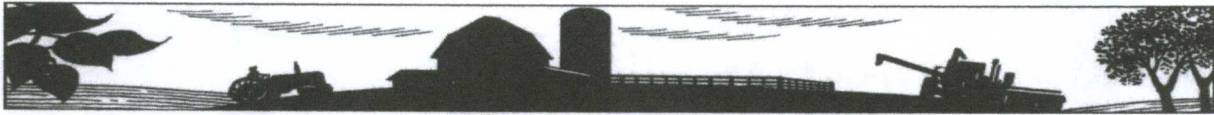
From the Office Staff



2014 Poster Theme



**SECTION
OMITTED**



STATE COST SHARE ASSISTANCE

GRAZING MANAGEMENT

Grazing management is more than just moving livestock from one pasture to another. It begins with balancing livestock demand with forage supply, and includes proper water, mineral and nutrient distribution and much more.

The steady use of an area by livestock can cause erosion problems and affect water quality thus prompting the need to improve the vegetative cover on pastures; develop a planned rotational grazing system that may include water sources and water distribution, install fence to construct paddocks, lime to manage the pH of the soil and the interseeding of legumes. With the State Cost Share program, you have 3 years to install a complete rotational grazing system and the landowner or operator must attend a State approved grazing school in order to participate in the grazing management practices of: **Grazing System Water Development, Grazing System Water Distribution, Grazing System Fence, Grazing System Lime, Grazing System Seed and/or Permanent Vegetative Cover Enhancement.**

If you have any question, concerns or would like a field visit to help you address your farm's grazing future, please call the office.

PROTECT YOUR STREAMS

By Stephen Sparks, District Technician

There are many streams and creeks that our livestock have access to; have you ever wonder what the livestock could be doing to that stream? When livestock have access to a stream there are three major factors involved: contamination, destruction, and erosion.

Contamination - a large group of livestock can contaminate the water by leaving a high concentration of manure that is transported downstream.

Destruction - livestock can destroy wildlife habitat that is located in that area and kill the vegetation along the banks.

Erosion - due to the destroyed vegetation, the banks will erode becoming wider and eventually unstable. The livestock paths that are being used to get to the streams will erode and eventually start cutting back into your field.

Here at the Franklin County Soil and Water we offer funding for a WQ10-Streambank Protection practice that will keep your livestock out of the streams. This practice will provide assistance to fence out both sides of the stream with a minimum of 25 feet from the edge of the stream bank to a maximum of 150 feet exclusion area. This will give the vegetation a chance to have a steady growth and produce a good root system to keep the soil in place to prevent erosion, contamination, and destruction of the wildlife.

Since the stream was likely the livestock's only source of water, this practice can provide financial assistance for pipelines and tanks to the adjacent fields which will supply an adequate source of water.

If you have any interest or questions about our Stream Bank Protection Practice, feel free to contact Franklin County SWCD.

unlock the secrets in the soil

www.nrcs.usda.gov

"We know more about the movement of celestial bodies than about the soil underfoot."

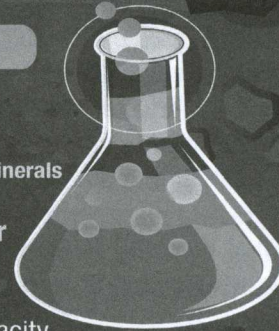
-Leonardo da Vinci



Living in the soil are plant roots, bacteria, fungi, protozoa, algae, mites, nematodes, worms, ants, maggots, insects and grubs, and larger animals.

science of soil

soil is
made of about **45%** minerals
25% water
5% organic matter **25%** air



what's underneath



Healthy soil has amazing water-retention capacity.

Every **1%** increase in organic matter results in as much as **25,000** gal of available soil water per acre.

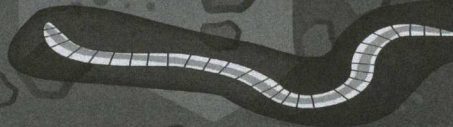


One teaspoon of healthy soil contains
100 million-1 billion individual bacteria



All of the soil microbes in **1 ac/ft** of soil weigh more than **2 cows**

Earthworm populations consume **2 tons** of dry matter per acre per year, partly digesting and mixing it with soil



what it does



Healthy soil is key to feeding **9 billion**  by **2050**

Sources: Composition of soil: The Nature & Properties of Soils page 17 (Nyle Brady, Ray R. Weil) | Water holding capacity: Kansas State Extension Agronomy e-Updates, Number 357, July 6, 2012 | Bacteria in a teaspoon: Soil Biology Primer page c-1 (Elaine Ingham, Andrew R. Moldenke, Cive Edwards) | Microbes weight: The Nature & Properties of Soils page 468 | Earthworm population consumption: Earthworms a Farm State publication by Spaul Duker, Assoc. Prof. of Soil Management and Richard Stehouwer, Assoc. Prof. environmental Soil Sciences | Feeding people: The United Nations | USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Carl Danz, Treasurer
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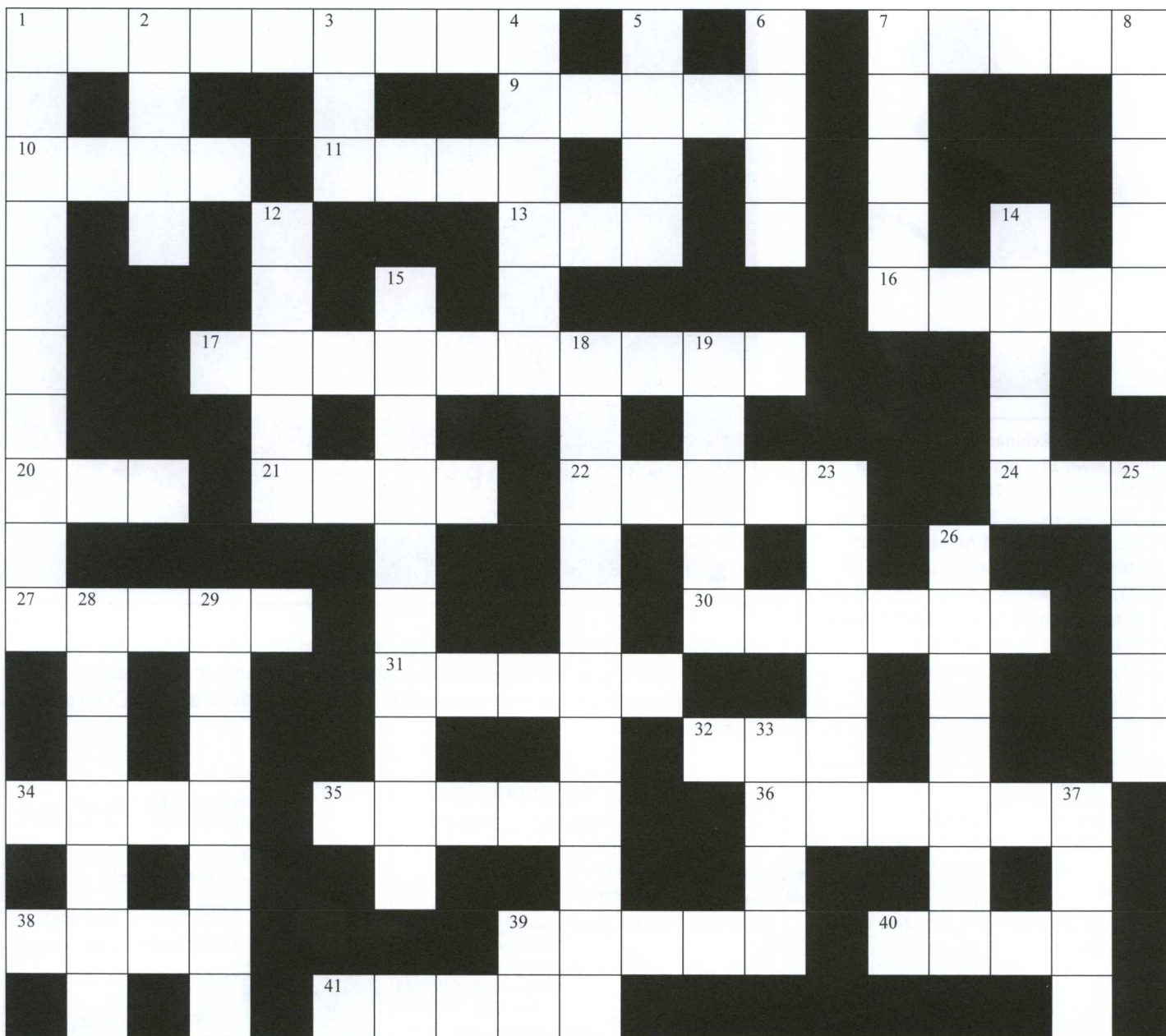
The Franklin County Conservation District was organized in 1944 with a primary objective to solve soil and water conservation problems. The District, upon request, aids in planning and applying appropriate land use and conservation treatment measures.

OFFICE STAFF PERSONNEL

Lori Nowak, District Clerk, FCSWCD
Stephen Sparks, District Technician, FCSWCD

Rhonda Davault, District Conservationist, NRCS
Kervin Bryant, Soil Conservationist, NRCS
Jerry Busch, Area Soil Technician, NRCS

Lia Heppermann, Private Land Conservationist, MDC
Ryan Diener, Farm Bill Wildlife Biologist



ACROSS:

1. Coneflower, herbal supplement
7. Hillbilly house
9. Group of quail
10. Sunrise
11. Chocolate sandwich cookie
13. Type of Cedar
16. Color to wear while hunting
17. Tan grass that pops up in pastures
20. Male Bighorn Sheep
21. Auctioneer's last word
22. Gama ____
24. Your hunting companion
27. Children and Teens
30. White flower, a.k.a. Nosebleed
31. Small purple flowers, New England ____

32. Honey maker
34. Cookie brand, Famous ____
35. Eggs and Buttered ____
36. Group of quail eggs
38. Listen to the quail ____
39. Mix of plaster and glue used in art
40. Will nest on your porch, Carolina ____
41. Plum thickets provide quail with

DOWN:

1. Shrub with black to blue fruits
2. Red-tailed predator
3. Much ____ about nothing
4. Falls from oaks
5. Passionate or enthusiastic

6. Flower, Black-____ Susan
7. Woody plant not as tall as a tree
8. Where you dog stays
12. Another name for wildflowers
14. Foaming at the mouth
15. Butterflies are a type of
18. Drop trees along a fenceline
19. Pour onto biscuits
23. *Oxalis*; Wood ____
25. Taste of poorly cooked rabbit
26. Type of bird hunting dog
28. Warm cereal
29. Pink flower with a spiky rosette
33. Repeat from a cave
37. Female quail
39. Power corporation acronym

answers page 6

submitted by: Ryan Diener, Quail Forever Wildlife Biologist



ACROSS: 1. Echinacea 7. Shack 9. Covey
10. Dawn 11. Oreo 13. Red 16. Blaze
17. Broomsedge 20. Ram 21. Sold
22. Grass 24. Dog 27. Youth 30. Yarrow
31. Aster 32. Bee 34. Amos 35. Toast
36. Clutch 38. Call 39. Gesso 40. Wren
41. Cover **DOWN:** 1. Elderberry 2. Hawk
3. Ado 4. Acorns 5. Avid 6. Eyed 7. Shrub
8. Kennel 12. Forbs 14. Rabid
15. Pollinator 18. Edge Feather
19. Gravy 23. Sorrel 25. Gamey
26. Pointer 28. Oatmeal 29. Thistle
33. Echo 37. Hens 39. G.E.

From the FCSWCD

supervisors:

*John, Dan, Carl,
Matt and Bernard*

Happy Holidays

Franklin County Soil & Water Conservation District does not endorse nor recommend any of the vendors/contractors advertised in this newsletter. Any Contractor/vendor that requests to be added to the District's Contractor List can do so.

SECTION
OMITTED

Area III - Michael & Patricia Stumpe



Our Area III Outstanding Farmer award goes to Michael and Patricia Stumpe in Rosebud. Mike's grandfather purchased the farm in 1936. The original farm has been home to cattle, swine, and chickens. Row cropping was also done in the past. The farm was divided among family members with the original home place being across the river.

Due to the river claiming the low lying fields in the rainy season, Mike decided years ago row cropping was not the way to go; instead, he decided to raise cattle. Mike and Pat applied for State Cost Share assistance with the District to help them install a rotational grazing system to assist in the feeding process. A total of 19 paddocks were constructed in which 10 tire tanks were needed to supply water in fields without a water source. The river and creek areas were fenced off to exclude the cattle from the sensitive areas. Since the grazing system has been installed, the cattle have adjusted nicely to the process of rotating and are always eager to move into a new paddock.

3 children and 7 grandchildren along with cattle, horses, chickens, ducks, dogs and cats call this farm home. The Stumpe's like to travel for a hobby. Mike also likes to work on the farm while Pat likes to embroidery and read in her spare time.

Congratulations to Michael and Patricia Stumpe!



FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
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COMING EVENTS

Thursday, November 28, 2013
USDA Service Center closed
Thanksgiving Day Holiday

Wednesday, December 25, 2013
USDA Service Center closed
Christmas Day Holiday

Wednesday, January 1, 2014
USDA Service Center closed
New Year's Day Holiday

Tuesday, January 14, 2014
SWCD Regular Board Meeting
8:00 a.m., USDA Service Center

Monday, January 20, 2014
USDA Service Center closed
Martin Luther King Day Holiday

Tuesday, February 11, 2014
SWCD Regular Board Meeting
8:00 a.m., USDA Service Center

Call to confirm meeting date and times. All regular meetings are open to the public.



Quarterly Quote

"I saw all the people hustling early in the morning to go into the factories and the stores and the office buildings, to do their job, to get their check. But ultimately it's not office buildings or jobs that give us our checks.

It's the soil.

The soil is what gives us the real income that supports us all."

Ed Begley, Jr.

THANK YOU

The District Board appreciates the cooperation of the businesses that advertise in our newsletter and hope that our readers patronize these advertisers. The Board especially appreciates the financial assistance of the Franklin County Commission. Thanks also to our partners in conservation: NRCS, FSA, DNR, University Extension, MDC, Quail Forever. Assistance from the Soil and Water Conservation District is available to all county residents regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, gender identity, reprisal, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation or individual's income. State Cost-Share funds are available for agriculture landowners that have active erosion and are approved to complete practices that solve the erosion problem and for practices that protect our water quality.